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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8987
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0491
RUEHAN/AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO 0276
RUEHRY/AMEMBASSY CONAKRY 0005

UNCLAS NAIROBI 000619

STATE PASS USTR FLORIZELLE LISER, CONNIE HAMILTON, PATRICK DEAN COLEMAN, AND WILLIAM JACKSON

STATE FOR AF/FO, AF/W JIM HUNTER, AF/E, AND AF/EPS ANN BREITER, GABRIELLE MALLORY, MARY B. JOHNSON, AND TAWANNA DAVIDSON

STATE ALSO FOR AF/EX SYLVIE MARTINEZ AND SONJA WRAY-BROWN

AF/PD FOR CLAUDIA ANYASO AND TIJEN AYBAR

STATE ALSO FOR EEB/TPP/BTA AMY HOLMAN

STATE PLEASE PASS USAID/EA AND USAID/AFR/SD BRUNO CORNELIO AND JEFF MALLICK

TREASURY FOR DAN PETERS AND REBECCA KLEIN

COMMERCE FOR KEVIN BOYD, ALICIA ROBINSON, AND BECKY ERKUL

AGRICULTURE FOR DON EVANS AND CATHY MCKINNELL

LABOR FOR SUDHA HALEY AND MAUREEN PETTIS

ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU MISSION

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ETRD ECON AGOA PGOV PREL GV MA KE SUBJECT: KENYA WILL "SERIOUSLY CONSIDER" NOT INVITING GUINEA AND MADAGASCAR TO AGOA FORUM 2009

REFS: (A) STATE 27823

(B) 03/17/2009 DRIANO-SLUTZ EMAIL

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- $\P1$. (SBU) As instructed ref A, Economics Counselor urged the Government of Kenya (GOK) not to invite Guinea and Madagascar to the August 4-6, 2009, AGOA Forum in Nairobi.
- 12. (SBU) During a March 24 meeting between the senior GOK officials responsible for organizing the forum and a visiting USG AGOA interagency team, the Kenyans confided they had yet to send letters of invitation to AGOA-eligible sub-Saharan countries. ECON/C informed Ministry of Trade Secretary of External Trade Simon Chacha Nyangi that the United States welcomes the African Union's decisions to condemn the recent coups in Guinea and Madagascar and suspend the memberships of both countries. He explained that because Guinea no longer meets AGOA eligibility requirements, Kenya should not invite it to the forum. Likewise, Madagascar should not be invited. Chacha Nyangi responded that Kenya would definitely consider the United States' objections and seriously consider not inviting Guinea and Madagascar.
- 13. (SBU) On March 27 econoff shared reftel points, emphasizing the AU's suspension of Guinea's and Madagascar's memberships, with Johnson Weru, head of the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Economic and External Trade Division and his ministry's senior representative on Kenya's AGOA Preparatory Committee. Weru said he would promptly relay our request that Kenya not invite Guinea and Madagascar to Dr. Cyrus Njiru, the permanent secretary in the

Ministry of Trade.

 $\P4.$ (SBU) Post will also provide the USG position in a diplomatic note to the Kenyan MFA (copied to the Ministry of Trade) as soon as possible.

Ranneberger